

Message Text

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44

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

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O R 211626Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7847

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 766

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJECT: ENERGY: ORGANIZING MEETING OF COORDINATING GROUP FEB. 25

REF: (A) OSLO 754 (NOTAL) (B) STATE 34417

1. AS INDICATED REF A, DCM OUTLINED THE DEPARTMENT'S THINKING REGARDING THE ORGANIZING MEETING OF THE COORDINATING GROUP TO UNDER SECRETARY ARNESEN THIS AFTERNOON (FEBRUARY 21). ARNESEN MADE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS IN THE WAY OF INITIAL REACTION:

(A) NORWAY WILL CERTAINLY BE REPRESENTED AT THE FEBRUARY 25 MEETING, ALTHOUGH IT MIGHT HAVE PREFERRED A SOMEWHAT LATER
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MEETING.

(B) HE UNDERSTOOD THAT SOME EEC COUNTRIES HOPED TO POSTPONE THE DATE OF THE MEETING IN ORDER TO INCREASE THE

POSSIBILITY THAT FRANCE WILL AGREE TO ATTEND, AND HE EXPRESSED SOME INTEREST IN THE RATIONALE FOR SUCH AN EARLY MEETING.

(C) WHILE IT WAS FINE THAT THE FIRST MEETING BE HELD IN WASHINGTON, HE HOPED THAT FUTURE MEETINGS WOULD TAKE PLACE IN EUROPE.

(D) HE PREFERRED THE IDEA OF A ROTATING CHAIRMAN BECAUSE IT EMPHASIZED BOTH THE CONCEPT OF SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES AND THE FACT THAT WHAT IS INVOLVED IS AN "AD HOC" AND NOT A NEW PERMANENT ORGANIZATION IN CONFRONTATION WITH THE PRODUCER COUNTRIES.

(E) HE HOPED THAT THE APPROACH TO THE CREATION OF NEW STRUCTURES WILL BE AN ENTIRELY PRAGMATIC ONE, REFLECTING ACTUAL NEED.

(F) HE HOPED THE WORKING GROUP WOULD BE LOCATED IN EUROPE AND EXPRESSED SOME PREFERENCE FOR PARIS (WHERE THE OECD IS) OR BRUSSELS.

2. ARNESEN LEFT AT ONE POINT TO CONSULT WITH FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND, WHO HAD JUST RETURNED FROM A CABINET MEETING AT WHICH THE UPCOMING MEETING IN WASHINGTON WAS DISCUSSED. HE REPORTED THAT JENS BOYESEN, NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR TO BELGIUM, HAD BEEN SELECTED TO ACCOMPANY ARNESEN TO THE WASHINGTON MEETING AND WOULD MOST PROBABLY SERVE AS NORWAY'S SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE ON THE WORKING GROUP.

3. ALTHOUGH THERE WILL NOT BE A FINANCIAL EXPERT ON THE NORWEGIAN DELEGATION, BOYESEN IS COMPETENT IN THE ECONOMIC-FINANCIAL FIELD AND WILL FILL THAT ROLE AS WELL. (BOYESEN WAS HIMSELF UNDER SECRETARY IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY IN EARLIER YEARS AND HAS OCCASIONALLY BEEN MENTIONED AS A CANDIDATE FOR FOREIGN MINISTER. AN EXTREMELY COMPETENT DIPLOMAT, HE SERVED AS NORWEGIAN PERMREP TO NATO AND OEEC FROM 1955 TO 1963. AS NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR IN GENEVA FROM 1968 TO 1973, HE ALSO SERVED AS PERMREP TO EFTA.) BYRNE

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To: STATE INFO OTTAWA
TOKYO
BONN
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EC BRUSSELS
COPENHAGEN
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